

RESOLUTION NO. R2007-42

## A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NEW RULES OF DECORUM FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE, That the following new Rules of Decorum of the Town Council be and hereby are established:

**RULES OF DECORUM**

Public participation is encouraged at appropriate times during all proceedings of the Town of Signal Mountain. The general conduct of the business of the Town Council and its boards is governed by Robert's Rules of Order. The general conduct of the public must be civil in manner, directed to the business at hand, and must conform to the following rules of decorum:

- Upon recognition by the Chair, a citizen or spokesperson will come to the microphone, identify him/herself by stating name and address, and be given three (3) minutes to speak directly to the Council or its board. The time limit may be waived at the discretion of the Chair.
- Citizens will not address the audience nor answer questions from the audience without permission from the Chair. Debates or discussions between members of the audience and speaking without permission are unacceptable.
- Citizens will be civil in tone and demeanor. Profane language and inflammatory or derogatory personal remarks are unacceptable.
- Citizens will be respectful of the opinions of others. Shouting, booing, hissing or other inappropriate or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable.
- Citizens must leave signs, banners or placards outside.

**Citizens who participate in unacceptable behavior will be ruled out-of-order and, if necessary, will be removed from the premises.**

The Chair will make every effort to recognize speakers in order of request. To provide an orderly structure should there be a large number of speakers, a "Sign-Up" sheet may be used at the discretion of the Chair. Preference will be given to those speakers, but will not be exclusive of others who wish to speak at the conclusion of those who signed up.

Organizations such as clubs, associations, or groups wishing to address a specific issue should appoint a spokesperson to represent them. By prior arrangement with the Town to be listed on the agenda, such representatives may be given special consideration for extra time.

All decisions by the Chair on any of the above matters may be over-ruled by a majority vote of the Council or its board. The Chair can also call for a vote to suspend or modify any or all of the rules by majority vote.

**Please remember to turn off or silence cell phones, pagers, or other electronic devices before meetings commence.**

  
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MAYOR

  
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RECORDER

5-14-2007  
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DATE

5-14-2007  
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PAN/kac